

## CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

## Council of the Faculty of Arts and Science

## Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, December 1, 1995

- Present:** G. Valaskakis, Chair; M. Yates; J. Abcarius; ; P. Acheson for S. Sharma; A. Ahmad; J. Appleby; P. Bird; K. Bolh; J. Bottenburg; V. Bowker, M. Brian; D. Brown; W. Byers; J. Byrnes; M. Clarke; M. Danis; D. Dicks; A. Duranceau; A. Flynn; C. Fournier; D. Frost; A. Galler; B. Gilsdorf; S. Hoecker-Drysdale; J. Jans; J. Lightstone; P. L'Hérault; B. Litner; M. Malik; K. McMurray; C. Potworowski; M. Pruska-Carroll; E. Raudsepp; I. Robinson; B. Sahni; R. Schmid; A. Schwartzman; M. Singer; J. Sullivan; A. Teffeteller; J. Woodsworth.
- Regrets:** G. Alfred; J. Fiset; S. Lecker; D. Markiewicz; R. Pallen; S. Ruby; D. Salée; H. Shulman.
- Absent:** N. Banga; G. Boutin; S.-J. De Vito; O. de Winter; N. Eddy; M. Fairbairn; Y. Henrico; F. Lowy; C. Maillé; A. Nash; D. Nemiroff; G. Pyburn; D. Salée; D. Sheps; G. Tayco.
- Guests:** P. Acheson; M. Anvari; P. Bright; A.M. Laurin; T. Maag; S. McEvenue; K. Sundwall.

**Documents considered or distributed at the meeting:**

- a) An Alternative Proposal, ASFC 95-9M-C and D. from ASFC Steering Committee
- b) Concordia University Organizational Structure, August 1995
- c) Graduate Curriculum Changes memo from J. Woodsworth to G. Valaskakis  
ASFC 95-10M-A
- d) M.A. Theological Studies, ASFC 95-10M-B<sup>i</sup>
- e) "Fast Tracking" M.A. Students into the Ph.D. Program, ASFC 95-10M B<sup>ii</sup>

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:36 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

ASFC 95-10M-1

**It was moved and seconded (McMurray/Robinson) that the agenda be approved with the addition of a new item 11, entitled Elections and Ratifications.**

**3. Approval of Minutes of October 20th and October 27th, 1995**

ASFC 95-10M-2

**It was moved and seconded (Robinson/Sahni) that the minutes be approved as circulated.**

**4. Remarks from the Chair**

There were none.

## **5. Questions and Announcements**

The Chair announced that Virginia Bowker who was present at the meeting, was representing part of the team from the Registrar's Office dealing with the Faculty of Arts and Science, the head of which was Lynn Prendergast, the Acting Registrar. She expressed her thanks for the work on Convocation carried out by Virginia and Lynn.

Referring to a previous question on standardization of day and evening classes at a previous meeting of Council, Dr. Woodsworth reported that a motion from Sociology and Anthropology had gone forward to the Vice-Rector Services. FCC had also discussed standardization of time slots, and lengthening of semesters. These questions were now being looked at by the Academic Services Committee, which struck a small sub-committee to look at extending the term to 15 weeks including the exam period, and standardization of time slots. (Same number of minutes during the day as in the evening.) Donald Chambers and Dr. Jans were on that Committee. Dr. Woodsworth would report back to Council further developments.

The Chair announced that Dr. B. Sahni was now Acting Director of the Centre of International Academic Cooperation; she was very grateful for his contribution.

## **6. Reports from Other Bodies**

Judith Appleby gave a brief report on the Library.

- She stated that Release 9 will be installed on December 20. Because of this, CLUES will be shut down for 3 hours.
- Because of budget constraints, the Library had to cancel over \$218,000 worth of serial subscriptions.
- The budget controls had affected services. There were fewer staff, and services to Alumni and non-Concordia students had been severely curtailed.
- The Library had received special funds to purchase hardware and to install networks.
- Three Canadian databases were to be loaded on to CLUES. The installations were expected to be completed by the end of March.

A question was raised about a possible merger of library services between institutions. J. Appleby had not heard of such, but would inquire whether there had been discussions at the Rector's level, and would respond.

Dr. Maag reported on behalf of the Board of Governors. She gave an update on the situation pertaining to 15 senior administrator salaries and the February 1993 policy. A second legal opinion was being sought.

Dr. Teffeteller reported on behalf of the Senate, and referred to the Senate meeting of November 17:

- In the ASFC meeting that morning, seven resolutions had been passed with respect to the Blue Paper; of these, numbers 2, 5, and 6 pertained directly to the principles. These were passed. However, numbers 1, 3, 4 and 7 were not passed as Resolutions, but would be taken into account in future revisions of the document.
- The Principles of the Blue Paper were approved by Senate.
- In response to a question, Dr. Teffeteller replied that there had been no other resolutions

from the other Faculties. The Chair thanked Dr. Byers for advising Council to put forward resolutions concerning the Blue Paper on behalf of Arts and Science.

Dr. Bird reported on:

- the Council of Graduate Studies which had met on November 6. This was basically a routine meeting.
- the Senate Research Committee. This committee had been working on a report on Research Centres in the University, and the problematic areas. Senate Committee has been working on polishing up the report. It will then go to Senate. The report dealt with funding for the Centres, what the mandate would be. Establishment and recognition of new Centres, evaluation of ongoing Centres, allocation of resources, appointment of research directors, proceedings of the university committee etc. It would be a comprehensive document which would also focus on infrastructure. At present there was a problem concerning funding of telephone costs, as Treasury have been applying the grant rules more strictly.
- the Computer Resources Committee of the University. He explained that the main business of that Committee was to draft a University policy, which would deal with computer access, privacy, ownership of material stored on computer, how computers should be used, and definition of computer harassment.

Dr. Gilsdorf reported on the Self-Appraisal Committee, which had met that morning. The Think Tank Report chaired by Dr. Cheeke was finished. It spoke strongly of a vision for Arts and Science. (Copies of the Cheeke Think Tank Report could be made available from the Dean's office on request.) The Self Appraisal Committee was in the process of making decisions about structure. Their report was expected by January.

Dr. P. L'Hérault announced that part-time faculty member, David Homel, of the Département d'études françaises had won the Governor General's Award for Translation.

## **7. Graduate Curriculum Changes**

Judith Woodsworth gave a follow-up on the November meeting of the School of Graduate Studies. At the November meeting, changes that went through ASFC last spring were approved - including the Ph.D. in Communication Studies as well as the co-op format for the M.A. in Economics and minor changes in Education.

She referred to changes in the M.A. Theological Studies program. The M.A. in Theological Studies had been approved by Senate in 1989, then had gone to CREPUQ, where some revisions were suggested. These were returned to Graduate Studies, revised and approved by an ad hoc committee in 1993. The programme was approved by CREPUQ in 1994 with final approval by MEQ in 1995. The program had 14 students, and another who would start in January. No additional resources other than the \$25,000 start-up money was involved. The Department of Theology was planning to significantly reduce their undergraduate program offerings.

The Chair asked for speaking privileges for Dr. Bright and Dr. McEvenue.

In response to a question on the lack of language requirements, Dr. McEvenue replied that English was the dominant language in Theology, and would continue to be so. He was also aware that if Latin and/or Greek were requirements there would be fewer students in the classes.

Dr. Singer stated that this new program represented a milestone in the history of the Department of Theological Studies and extended his congratulations to the Department.

**ASFC 95-10M-3 It was moved and seconded (Woodsworth/Singer) that Curriculum changes, as indicated in ASFC 95-10M-A, for the M.A. in Theology be approved.**

**Carried unanimously**

On the subject of "Fast Tracking" M.A. Students into the Ph.D. Program in Religion, Dr. Woodsworth explained that these would be students who had completed 18 credits at the Master's level, and had an average of at least an A-. This policy, although unusual at Concordia, was an accepted practice at other universities particularly in the U.S.

**ASFC 95-10M-4 It was moved and seconded (Woodsworth/Litner) to "fast track" exceptional M.A. students who have completed 18 credits in the Master's programme; have an A- average; and a well-focussed research plan, to the Ph.D. in Religion programme.**

**Carried unanimously**

The Chair thanked Dr. Woodsworth for the work she had put into this dossier.

#### **8. Discussion of the Reorganization of the Senior Administration**

Dr. Anvari, Dean of Commerce and Administration was thanked for coming to the Faculty Council meeting. The Chair explained that in current budget restraint situation, the Deans had though it a good idea to start sharing information between the Faculties. Dr. Anvari then presented some of the changes that had taken place in the Faculty of Commerce and Administration. The undergraduate core had been revised. Surveys had been carried out on a number of different groups and results studied, resulting in changes to curricula, including introducing courses to be held at weekends; there would be a requirement for students to earn 12 credits in the Faculty of Arts and Science and/or Faculty of Fine Arts. These changes would be incorporated in September 1996.

The Chair reported that the new reorganization structure, dated August 1995, was passed by the Board at their last meeting, with some changes.

The Chair suggested that Council should have a "Committee of the Whole" discussion for thirty minutes with a view to moving resolutions when the time was up.

Attention was drawn to three documents: Concordia University Proposed Organizational Structure, Chief Financial Officer - proposed organizational restructure, and An Alternative Proposal - emanating from the Steering Committee of Faculty Council.

Dr. Hoecker-Drysdale began the discussion on the **Alternative Proposal**. She emphasized that if downsizing and savings were under discussion, then the senior administrative structure should be included in this action. It also undertook to put the academic sector in the centre; and moved libraries, computer services, and bookstore to come under the Vice-Rector, Academic.

Dr. Gilsdorf endorsed the **Alternative Proposal** and proposed four criteria to be taken into account before adopting any administrative restructuring:

- i. Any reorganization plan must demonstrate commitment on the part of the University to a visible demonstration of cost-savings at the upper administrative level.
- ii. The Arts and Science Faculty must represent a larger voice in the University, and not just one dean among others.
- iii. There should be higher priority placed on academic functions of the university, particularly teaching.
- iv. Any structural change must be driven by a reorientation of the way work is done at this University. We should decentralize the administrative work to the academic units.

With respect to the alternative proposal, Dr. Lightstone pointed out that Advancement, Capital Campaign, and Fundraising were in fact one office, as were Human Resources, Compensation Benefits, Employment Services and Labour Relations. He stated that the Faculty Personnel Office would become part of Human Resources.

Dr. Litner questioned why the School of Graduate Studies was included in the chart, as in previous discussions at Council, the consensus was that it was not needed. This point was confirmed by Dr. Valaskakis who said that at the October 27th meeting a Resolution was passed to that effect.

**ASFC 95-10M-5 It was moved and seconded (Gilsdorf/Galler) that the four criteria should be taken into account whenever decisions were to be made with respect to restructuring.**

**Carried unanimously**

Discussion followed on the Vice-Rectoral positions, and the following motion was passed with the intention not to change the function of the job, but rather to distinguish the Vice-Rector, Academic from the others. Dr. Woodsworth pointed out various problems with the word "Provost", with respect to its meaning, translatability, and pronunciation.

- ASFC 95-10M-6** It was moved and seconded (Singer/Brown) that the position of Vice-Rector, Academic be renamed the position of Vice-Rector, Academic and Provost in order to better reflect the primacy of the academic mission and mandate of the University.

**Carried**

- ASFC 95-10M-7** It was moved and seconded (Gilsdorf/Teffeteller) that the Faculty of Arts and Science recommends that there be two positions of Vice-Rector; Vice-Rector, Academic and Vice-Rector, Administration, and that Libraries and that Computer Services report to the Vice-Rector, Academic.

**Carried**

- ASFC 95-10M-8** It was moved and seconded (Sahni/Teffeteller) that the Alternative Organizational Chart originating from ASFC Steering Committee should be forwarded for discussion purposes.

**Carried**

**9. Other Business**

There was none.

**10. Notices of Motion**

There were none.

**11. Elections and Ratifications**

Arts and Science Faculty Council

Undergraduate student, K. Sundwall of Leisure Studies to be ratified. This will complete the requirement of 16 undergraduate students.

**Ratified.**

**12. Next Meeting**

The Council was reminded that the next meeting would be held on **Friday, January 12, at 2:00 p.m. in DL 200.**

**13. Adjournment**

- ASFC 95-10M-9** It was moved and second (Sahni/Gilsdorf) that the meeting be adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

**Carried.**